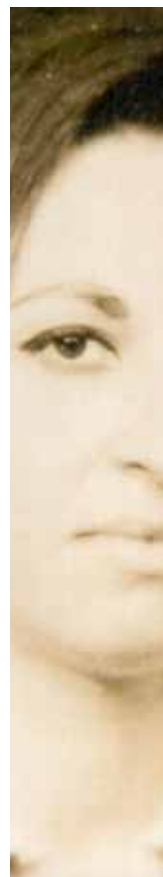




Film Catalogue



2012



For Independent Cinema

MC Distribution aims at supporting Lebanese and International independent Cinema in Lebanon and the Middle East. Working closely with the Metropolis Association, MC Distribution releases new Lebanese independent titles at the Metropolis Empire Sofil theaters as well as other theaters around Lebanon.

MC Distribution also partners with international distributors to acquire and release foreign titles within the framework of its objective. In addition, MC Distribution promotes its Lebanese-produced films at international festivals and film markets and strives to promote Lebanese cinema around the world.

Polisse

2011 // Color // 127 min // French with English & Arabic subtitles // Drama // France

Director: Maiwenn // **Writer:** Maiwenn, Emmanuelle Bercot // **Cinematography:** Pierre Aim // **Sound:** Emmanuel Croset // **Editing:** Laure Gardette // **Music:** Stephen Warbeck // **Producer:** Alain Attal



Cast // Karin Viard, Joeystarr, Maiwenn, Jérémie Elkaim, Sandrine Kiberlain.

Synopsis // The daily grind for the cops of the Police Department's Juvenile Protection Unit – taking in child molesters, busting underage pickpockets and chewing over relationship issues at lunch; Fred, the group's hypersensitive wild card, is going to have a hard time facing the scrutiny of Melissa, a photographer on a Ministry of the Interior assignment to document the unit.

Festivals and Awards // Jury Prize for Best Film – Cannes International Film Festival, 2011

■ The Artist

2011 // Black & White // 100 min // Silent with English title cards & Arabic subtitles // Comedy // France

Director/Writer: Michel Hazanavicius // **Cinematography:** Guillaume Schiffman // **Sound:** Etienne Colin // **Editing:** Anne-Sophie Bion, Michel Hazanavicius // **Music:** Ludovic Bource // **Producer:** Thomas Langmann



Cast // Jean Dujardin, Bérénice Bejo, John Goodman, James Cromwell.

Synopsis // Hollywood, 1927: As silent movie star George Valentin wonders if the arrival of talking pictures will cause him to fade into oblivion, he sparks with Peppy Miller, a young dancer set for a big break.

Festivals and Awards // Nominated for 10 Oscars - Academy Awards, 2012 // Best Motion Picture, Best Original Score and Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture – Golden Globe Awards, 2012 // Best Actor – Cannes International Film Festival, 2011

La Guerre Est Déclarée

Declaration Of War

2011 // Color // 100 min // French with English & Arabic subtitles // Drama // France

Director: Valérie Donzelli // **Writer:** Valérie Donzelli, Jérémie Elkaim // **Cinematography:** Sébastien Buchmann // **Sound:** André Rigaut // **Editing:** Pauline Gaillard // **Music:** Pascal Mayer // **Producer:** Edouard Weil



Cast // Valérie Donzelli, Jérémie Elkaim, César Desseix, Gabriel Elkaim

Synopsis // A new couple, Romeo and Juliette, who must face the ultimate test when they discover their newborn child is very ill. Gathering their friends and family together, they confront this ordeal together as a form of warfare.

Festivals and Awards // Opening Film – Critics' Week at the Cannes International Film Festival, 2011 Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Film – Gijón International Film Festival, 2011

My Little Princess

2011 // Color – 105 min // French, with English subtitles // Drama // France

Director/Writer: Eva Ionesco // **Co-Writer:** Marc Cholodenko, Philippe Le Guay // **Cinematography:** Jeanne Lapoirie // **Sound:** Olivier Mauvezin // **Editing:** Laurence Briaud // **Music:** Bertrand Burgalat // **Producer:** Les Productions Bagheera



Cast // Isabelle Huppert, Anamaria Vartolomei, Georgetta Leahu

Synopsis // Hannah is a whimsical mother who pursues the dream of being an artist. When Hannah asks her daughter Violetta if she would like to be her model, Violetta's life is turned upside down. From normal child to a muse of the trendy Paris art scene...

Festivals and Awards // Best Film, Best Director and Best Actress - Mumbai International Film Festival, 2011

// Official selection – Critics' Week at the Cannes International Film Festival, 2011

الجبل

La Montagne // The Mountain

2010 // Black and White // 84 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Experimental // Lebanon, Qatar

Director/Writer: Ghassan Salhab // **Cinematography:** Sarmad Louis // **Sound:** Karine Bacha, Florent Lavallée, Rana Eid // **Editing:** Michèle Tyan // **Music:** Raed Khazen, Mazzy Star, Richard Skelton // **Producer:** About Productions



Cast // Fadi Abi Samra

Synopsis // Night falls over Beirut. Fadi, a forty year old, packs his luggage and sets out to the airport with his friend. He is supposed to leave for a month, but instead of going on the plane, he rents a car and heads toward the North on a mountainous route.

Festivals and Awards // Official Selection – Toronto International Film Festival, 2011 // Official Selection - FIDMarseille, 2011
// Official Selection - Doha Tribeca Film Festival, 2010

تيتا ألف مرة

Teta, Alf Marra // Grandma, A Thousand Times

2010 // Color // 50 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Documentary // United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Lebanon

Director/Writer: Mahmoud Kaabour // **Cinematography:** Muriel Aboulrouss // **Sound:** Kareen Basha // **Editing:** Patricia Heneine // **Music:** Nabil Amarshi // **Producer:** Veritas Films



Cast // Fatima el Ghou, Mahmoud Kaabour

Synopsis // The film is a poetic documentary that puts a feisty Beirut grandmother at the center of brave film exercises designed to commemorate her many worlds before they are erased by the passage of time and her eventual death.

Festivals and Awards // Best Film - London International Documentary Film Festival, 2011 // Best Film - Mumbai Film Festival (Celebrate Age Category), 2011 // Audience Award for Best International Documentary - Dox Box Film Festival 2011 // Audience Award for Best Documentary - Doha Tribeca Film Festival 2010

يا نوسك

Yanoosak

2010 // Color // 65 min // Arabic, English with English subtitles // Comedy // Lebanon

Director: Elie Khalife, Alexandre Monnier // **Writer:** Elie Khalife // **Cinematography:** Rachel Aoun // **Sound:** Rana Eid // **Editing:** Gladys Joujou // **Music:** Zeid Hamdanr // **Producer:** Taxi Films // **Co-Producer:** TAbout Productions, Ghada Yammine



Cast // Siegfried Terpoorten, Zeina Daccache, Hussein Mokadem, Tarek Yacoub

Synopsis // Yanoosak tells the story of Rudi, an ordinary Swiss German living in Zurich, who decides one day to reside in Beirut in order to meet his soul mate and establish a small business. Between one heartbreak and another, he manages however to open a small pizzeria. The movie follows this segment of his tragic-comic life while revealing how European culture tries to blend into the oriental culture without fully understanding its codes

Festivals and Awards // Beirut International Film Festival, 2010

سمعان بالضبعة

The One Man Village

2008 // Color // 86 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Documentary // Lebanon

Director/Writer: Simon El Habre // **Cinematography:** Bassem Fayad, Marc Karam // **Sound:** Chadi Roukoz // **Editing:** Simon El Habre // **Producer:** Simon El Habre, Jad Abi-Khalil, Irit Neidhardt



Cast // Semaan El Habre, Samir El Habre, Salim El Habre, Amin El Habre, Ehsan El Habre, Najm El Habre, Ghassan El Habre, Samira Sherfan El Habre, Ivan Farah.

Synopsis // Semaan is leading a quiet life on his farm in a village in the Lebanese mountains that was destroyed during the civil war. Today, many years after an official reconciliation, its inhabitants regularly go back to the village. This comforting and humorous film observes life in this quasi ghost village, reflecting on the collective and individual memory in a country that seems to live in a collective amnesia and is vulnerable to a new civil war.

Festivals and Awards // Best International Feature Documentary – Hot Docs, 2009 // Official Selection – Berlinale - Forum Section, 2009 // Special Jury Award - Monaco Charity Film Festival, 2008 // Special Jury Prize - Dubai International Film Festival, 2008 // Special Mention - One World Festival Prague, 2008

ميلودراما حبيبي

Mélodrama Habibi

2008 // Color // 98 min // Arabic, French with English subtitles // Drama, Comedy // Lebanon

Director/Writer: Hany Tamba // **Co-Writer:** Michel Kammoun, Emanuelle Mougne // **Cinematography:** Emmanuel Soyer // **Sound:** Emmanuel Zouki // **Editing:** Marie-Josée Audiard // **Producer:** Emmanuel Agneray, Jérôme Bleitrach, Georges Schoucair, Sabine Sidawi-Hamdan



Cast // Patrick Chesnais, Pierrette Katrib, Gabriel Yammine, Julia Kassar.

Synopsis // In the 1970's, Bruno Caprice was briefly successful with his first and only hit single, "Quand Tu T'en Vas". Completely forgotten today, he earns a living as a receptionist in a luxury hotel in Paris. After breaking up with his girlfriend, Bruno has the blues. But an unexpected phone call changes his life. A rich Lebanese businessman wants him to come sing in Beirut. In Lebanon, his song is still on people's minds...

Festivals and Awards // Official Selection - Seattle International Film Festival, 2009 // Audience Award - Brussels International Film Festival, 2008 // Arabian Nights Selection - Dubai International Film Festival, 2008

كل يوم عيد

Chaque Jour Est Une Fete // Every Day is a Holiday

2009 // Color // 80 min // Arabic, French with English subtitles // Drama // Lebanon

Director/Writer: Dima El-Horr // **Co-Writer:** Rabih Mroue // **Cinematography:** Dominique Gentil // **Editing:** Jacques Comets // **Music:** Pierre Aviat // **Producer:** Thierry Lenouvel, Nicole Gerhards, Hanneke Van der Tas, Remi Bonhomme



Cast // Hiam Abbas, Manal Khader, Raia Haidar, Fadi Abi Samra

Synopsis // It's Independence Day in Lebanon: three women who've never met before are on the same bus heading to visit a prison situated in a remote area of the country. Traveling through an arid landscape littered with mines and decapitated dreams, the journey transforms into the women's quest for their own independence.

Festivals and Awards // Toronto International Film Festival, 2009 // Dubai International Film Festival, 2009 // Rome Film Festival, 2009 // Tallin Black Nights Film Festival, 2009

1958

2009 // Color and Black & White // 66 min // Arabic, French with English subtitles // Documentary // Lebanon

Director/Writer: Ghassan Salhab // **Cinematography:** Sarmad Louis // **Editing:** Simon El Habre // **Sound:** Karine Bacha, Rana Eid // **Producer:** Georges Shoucair (About Productions)



Cast // Zahia Salhab, Aouni Kawas, Obeid Zwein, Mohamad Al Chami. Marie Sarr, Nady Louis

Synopsis // In 1958, in Senegal, land of emigration, Zahia Salhab gave birth to her first child Ghassan. During the same period, Lebanon, their homeland, is driven into a significant local conflict, a preamble to the next civil war.

Festivals and Awards // Official Selection – FIDMarseille, 2009 // Official Selection – Locarno International Film Festival, 2009
// Official Selection – Middle East International Film Festival, 2009

بدي شوف

Je Veux Voir // I Want To See

2008 // Color // 75 min // French, English, Arabic with English subtitles // Docudrama // Lebanon, France

Director/Writer: Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige // **Cinematography:** Julien Hirsch // **Sound:** Guillaume Le Bras // **Editing:** Enrica Gattolini // **Music:** Scrambled Eggs // **Producer:** Tony Arnoux, Anne-Cécile Berthomeau, Farès Ladjimi, Edouard Mauriat, Georges Schoucair



Cast // Catherine Deneuve, Rabih Mroue, Brigitte Curmi

Synopsis // July 2006. Another war breaks out in Lebanon. The directors decide to follow a movie star, Catherine Deneuve and a friend, actor and artist Rabih Mroué, on the roads of South Lebanon. Together, they will drive through the regions devastated by the conflict. It is the beginning of an unpredictable, unexpected adventure...

Festivals and Awards // Non-Fiction/Documentary Award - Gijon International Film Festival, 2008 // Official Selection – Un Certain Regard - Cannes International Film Festival, 2008

Upcoming Films



طيب، خالص، يلا

Ok, Enough, Goodbye

2008 // Color // 75 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Comedy, Drama // United Arab Emirates, Lebanon

Director/Writer: Rania Attieh, Daniel Garcia // **Cinematography:** Daniel Garcia // **Sound:** Quentin Chiappetta // **Editing:** Rania Attieh and Daniel Garcia // **Music:** Daniel Garcia // **Producer:** Rania Attieh, Daniel Garcia



Cast // Daniel Arzrouni, Nadime Attieh

Synopsis // In the small, tightly knit city of Tripoli, Lebanon, where family bonds run very deep, a forty-something man still lives with his elderly mother and has given up on the idea of becoming independent. But when one day his mother suddenly leaves him, the man is left with nothing but the company of a city and what it offers.

Festivals and Awards // Black Pearl Award for Best Narrative Film by a New Director from the Arab World - Abu Dhabi Film Festival, 2010

A Separation

Jodaeiye Nader az Simin

2011 // Color // 123 min // Persian with French & Arabic subtitles // Drama // Iran

Director/Writer: Asghar Farhadi // **Cinematography:** Mahmoud Kalari // **Editing:** Hayedeh Safiyari // **Sound:** Mahmoud Samakbashi // **Music:** Sattar Oraki // **Producer:** Asghar Farhadi, Negar Eskandarfar



Cast // Peyman Maadi, Leila Hatami, Sareh Bayat

Synopsis // A married couple is faced with a difficult decision - to improve the life of their child by moving to another country or to stay in Iran and look after a deteriorating parent who has Alzheimer's disease.

Festivals and Awards // Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film of the Year & Best Writing, Original Screenplay – Academy Awards, 2012 // Nominated for Best Film Not in the English Language - BAFTA Awards, 2012 // Best Film Award - Asia Pacific Screen Awards, 2011 // International Jury Award, Prize of the Ecumenical Jury, Reader Jury of the "Berliner // Morgenpost" Award, Best Actor & Best Actress - Berlin International Film Festival, 2011 // Best Foreign Independent Film - British Independent Film Awards, 2011

الحوض الخامس

Gate #5

2012 // Color // 84 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Documentary // United Arab Emirates, Lebanon

Director/Writer: Simon El Habre // **Cinematography:** Bassem Fayad // **Sound:** Emile Aouad // **Editing:** Simon El Habre // **Music:** Cynthia Zaven // **Producer:** Georges Shoucair (About Productions) // **Co-producer:** Paul Scherzer, Irit Neidhart



Cast // Najem El Habre, Mohammad Kaadan, Naim Janjoun, Mostafa El Masri

Synopsis // Beirut Port. Three truck drivers in their sixties sit waiting, another lies in a hospital hooked up to a dialysis machine. Days on end they wait for something to happen, for life to begin again. Yet once upon a time these four men fearlessly drove some of the most hostile roads. Through gunfire and bombs they risked their lives to carry goods across war-torn Lebanon. But now they sit, waiting.

Festivals and Awards // Dubai International Film Festival, 2011

القِطَاع صفر

Sector Zero

2010 // Color // 70 min // Arabic with English subtitles // Documentary // United Arab Emirates, Lebanon

Director/Writer: Nadim Mishlawi // **Cinematography:** Talal Khoury // **Sound:** Karine Bacha, Rana Eid // **Editing:** Nadim Shartouny // **Music:** Nadim Mishlawi // **Producer:** Georges Shoucair (About Productions)



Cast // Bernard Khoury, Chawki Azoury, Hazem Saghiye

Synopsis // Through a closed study of the notorious, now derelict district of Karantina, Sector Zero uses Karantina's history as a metaphor for Lebanon's own troubled past, suggesting that by denying their traumas, the Lebanese people have entered a downward spiral into the abyss that is their own collective unconscious.

Festivals and Awards // First Prize – Muhr Arab Documentary - Dubai International Film Festival, 2011

Omar M'a Tuer

Omar Killed Me

2011 // Color // 85 min // French with English & Arabic subtitles // Drama // France

Director/Writer: Roschdy Zem // **Cinematography:** Jérôme Alméras // **Sound:** Edouard Morin // **Editing:** Monica Coleman // **Music:** Alexandre Azariar // **Producer:** Rachid Bouchareb, Jean Bréhat



Cast // Sami Bouajila, Denis Podalydès, Maurice Bénichou

Synopsis // An unjustly convicted man fights for justice in this drama based on a true story.

Festivals and Awards // Official Selection – Toronto International Film Festival, 2011



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